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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3101

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY, RANKING MEMBER
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GOVERNMENT REFORM

HEALTH CARE, BENEFITS,
AND ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Received & Inspected

MAR 13 2017

FCC Mail Room

March 8, 2017

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C.
ATTN: Brian Hurley

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in support of Sandy Jones' nomination to the FCC's Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee (BDAC). BDAC will provide advice and recommendations to the FCC on how to accelerate the deployment of high-speed internet access. While the United States is making progress in broadband deployment, many Americans still lack access to high quality voice, data, graphics, and video services.

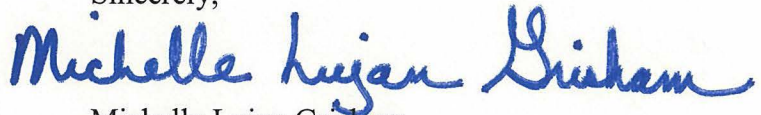
Access to broadband is a particularly challenging issue in New Mexico. New Mexico's large rural and Native American areas are in greatest need of broadband services because of their lower customer density and generally lower incomes. Countless families and students living, working, and learning in these areas still do not have access to reliable, high-speed internet services, which is an obstacle to economic development and improving education.

Nobody knows these issues better than Sandy Jones who has represented rural areas in southwestern New Mexico for 6 years at the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (PRC). He has taken the lead to expand the availability and reliability of broadband in rural New Mexico through the creation of a Broadband Fund, which will be used to facilitate investment in broadband infrastructure projects. He has dedicated much of his career to working with stakeholders and policy-makers to make broadband a reality for underserved New Mexicans.

As the current Chairman of the PRC and as someone who has years of experience living and working in rural areas of New Mexico, Sandy would be a great asset to the BDAC. I can think of nobody better who not only understands the challenges individuals without access to broadband face, but also knows what it will take to ensure that all Americans, regardless of where they live, have access to broadband.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact my
Legislative Director, Nathan Schelble, at 202-225-6316.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michelle Lujan Grisham". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each name being capitalized and prominent.

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Member of Congress



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

March 22, 2017

The Honorable Michelle Lujan Grisham
U.S. House of Representatives
214 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

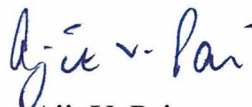
Dear Congresswoman Grisham:

Thank you for your letter supporting the appointment of Ms. Sandy Jones, Chairwoman of the New Mexico Public Regulatory Commission, to serve on the Commission's Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee (BDAC). We will certainly consider your recommendation and Ms. Jones' impressive resume as the Commission reviews the nominations for the BDAC.

Last September, I proposed what I called a Digital Empowerment Agenda—a blueprint of policies that would accelerate the deployment of high-speed Internet access, or broadband, in communities across the country, including rural America. The BDAC is intended to provide an effective means for stakeholders to exchange ideas and develop recommendations to the Commission on broadband deployment. Its mission will be to identify regulatory barriers to infrastructure investment and to make recommendations on reducing and/or removing them, which will in turn enhance the Commission's ability to carry out its statutory responsibility to encourage broadband deployment to all Americans.

I appreciate your taking the time to communicate your recommendations to me. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,


Ajit V. Pai